

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Wolfinbarger, et al.

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Application No.: Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: August 29, 2001

Att'y Dkt. No.: 58772.000004

Title: PLASTICIZED BONE AND
SOFT TISSUE GRAFTS, AND
METHODS OF MAKING AND
USING SAME

REQUEST BY APPLICANTS FOR INTERFERENCE
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.607 AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of the above-identified application on the
merits, please amend the application identified in caption as follows:

Re Amends A #2

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following paragraph prior to the first paragraph at page 1:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a division of Application Serial No. 09/107,459, filed June 30, 1998,
which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. --

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-32 without prejudice or disclaimer

Please add the following new claims:

--33. (New) A method for treating monolithic bone intended for implantation to
conserve the mechanical strength of the bone during lyophilization and subsequent